

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHORS REPORT FILED	NOTES
121-37 (LS)	Chris Barnett	Relative to recognizing the Charter Schools of Guam on the observance of "National Charter Schools Week" from May 7 through May 13, 2023; and commending Guahan Academy Charter School, iLearn Academy Charter School, Science is Fun and Awesome Learning Academy Charter School, and Career Tech High Academy Charter School for their innovative and imaginative efforts to ensure the well-rounded education of our students and our youth.	5/9/23 10:40 a.m.	5/13/23 10:30 a.m.	5/9/23					

Resolution No. 121-37 (LS)

Introduced by:

Frank Ihs, Jr.	Chris Barnett	Sabina Flores Perez
Juanne Brown	Roy A. R. Quinata	Joe S. San Agustin
Christopher M. Ducetas	Thomas J. Fisher	Amanda L. Shelton
Thomas J. Fisher	Jose A. Lapin	Telo T. Taitague
Jose A. Lapin	Tina Rose Alula Barnes	Therese M. Terlaje
William A. Parkinson		



Relative to recognizing the Charter Schools of Guam on the observance of "National Charter Schools Week" from May 7 through May 13, 2023; and commending Guahan Academy Charter School, iLearn Academy Charter School, Science is Fun and Awesome Learning Academy Charter School, and Career Tech High Academy Charter School for their innovative and imaginative efforts to ensure the well-rounded education of our students and our youth.

BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN:

WHEREAS, in 1991, the first charter school law in the nation was enacted, and in 1992, the first charter school was established in Minnesota. By 1995, an additional eighteen (18) states passed charter school legislation, and as of this writing, there are approximately seven thousand five hundred (7,500) charter schools nationwide and four (4) on Guam; and

WHEREAS, this year, "National Charter Schools Week" is celebrated from May 7, 2023 through May 13, 2023; and

WHEREAS, charter schools are tuition-free and independently-operated public schools that are open to all students regardless of location; and charter schools function as public schools, and their operators receive charters from public agencies – state or local school boards; and those charters are performance contracts that establish each school and contain provisions related to their financial plans, curriculum, and governance; and

WHEREAS, the "Guam Academy Charter Schools Act of 2009" was enacted to provide opportunities for teachers, students, and community members to establish and maintain schools that operate independently from the Guam Department of Education. Our local academy charter schools receive funding from annual appropriations to the Guam Academy Charter School Fund at a rate of about Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500) per student enrolled in the respective academy charter school; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, the *Guahan Academy Charter School* (GACS) became Guam's first (1st) approved academy charter school and was established in *Tjara*, and the school is focused on resourcefulness, respect, and responsibility, and its aim is to nurture their students' abilities to set and achieve goals, communicate effectively, think critically, and develop a self-motivated pursuit of knowledge. GACS's goal is to design and implement an academic program that meets the needs of a wide range of learners and to create a learning environment where diversity is celebrated through the studying of various cultures and civilizations, their arts, music, customs, and belief systems; and *Guahan Academy Charter School* aims to continue to promote tolerance and acceptance of all individuals, and to instill in their students a sense of respect and community; and

WHEREAS, the *iLearn Academy Charter School* (iLACS) was established in January 2015, becoming Guam's second (2nd) approved academy charter school. iLACS provides a rigorous academic curriculum for grades K-5 with a special emphasis on technology, and their students receive a unique and advanced educational experience to help ensure their future success. iLACS is committed to enriching their students' learning in all content areas but with a specific emphasis on technology, science, and math; and the mission of iLACS is to foster a love of learning in an environment that provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to achieve academic excellence through the use of technology, personal growth, and success; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the *Science is Fun and Awesome* (SIFA) Learning Academy Charter School located in *Tjara* was established, becoming Guam's third (3rd) academy charter school to be approved. SIFA is a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM)-based charter school that concentrates on educating middle school students; and its mission is to prepare middle school students through rigorous and relevant STEAM content as SIFA is dedicated to academic and personal development of their students to be successful and productive citizens by developing strong critical thinking skills that are needed to solve problems for Guam and the world, and to prepare their students to meet the challenges of today's world by helping them achieve their full potential; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the *Career Tech High Academy Charter School* (CTech), located in *Hagat*, became Guam's latest and fourth (4th) academy charter school to be approved; and they opened their doors to students in January 2021. CTech is Guam's only trades-centered high school that provides students the knowledge, experience and opportunity to achieve nationally-recognized certifications in their respective technical fields; and with a special emphasis in Career and Technical Education, their students can enter our local trades industry workforce with aligned with challenging academic standards and the relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare high school student for further education and careers in their chosen Career Technical cluster; and

WHEREAS, Guam's academy charter schools are accountable for improving our island students' achievements and meeting additional provisions of their charter, as well as visions of educational advancement that might not be realized in traditional public-school settings; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guahan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize the Charter Schools of Guam on the observance of "National Charter Schools Week" from May 7 through May 13, 2023; and commend *Guahan Academy Charter School*, *iLearn Academy Charter School*, *Science is Fun and Awesome Learning Academy Charter School*, and *Career Tech High Academy Charter School* for their innovative and imaginative efforts to ensure the well-rounded education of our students and our youth; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to *Evangelina Cepeda*, Chair of the *Guam Academy Charter Schools Council*; to *Ann Santiago*, Chief Executive Officer of *Guahan Academy Charter School*; to *Helen Nishihira*, Chief Operations Officer of *iLearn Academy Charter School*; *Rachel Alquero*, Chief Academic Officer of *iLearn Academy Charter School*; *Argie Pamplona*, Lower Elementary Principal of *iLearn Academy Charter School*; *Maria Dunn*, Upper Elementary Principal of *iLearn Academy Charter School*; *Jayne de Guzman*, Principal of *Science is Fun and Awesome Learning Academy Charter School*; *Andresina McManus*, Principal of *Career Tech High Academy Charter School*; and to the Honorable *Loardes A. Leon Guerrero*, *I Magsajidun Guahan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN ON THE 8TH DAY OF MAY 2023.

Therese M. Terlaje
THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker

Amanda L. Shelton
AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary



ajp
05/12 11:10 AM

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2023 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 121-37 (LS)

Introduced by:

Chris Barnett
Frank Blas, Jr.
Joanne Brown
Christopher M. Dueñas
Thomas J. Fisher
Jesse A. Lujan
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
William A. Parkinson
Sabina Flores Perez
Roy A.B. Quinata
Joe S. San Agustin
Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas
Amanda L. Shelton
Telo T. Taitague
Therese M. Terlaje

Relative to recognizing the Charter Schools of Guam on the observance of “National Charter Schools Week” from May 7 through May 13, 2023; and commending Guahan Academy Charter School, iLearn Academy Charter School, Science is Fun and Awesome Learning Academy Charter School, and Career Tech High Academy Charter School for their innovative and imaginative efforts to ensure the well-rounded education of our students and our youth.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***GUÁHAN*:**
3 **WHEREAS**, in 1991, the first charter school law in the nation was enacted; and
4 in 1992, the first charter school was established in Minnesota. By 1995, an additional

1 eighteen (18) states passed charter school legislation; and as of this writing, there are
2 approximately seven thousand five hundred (7,500) charter schools nationwide and four
3 (4) on Guam; and

4 **WHEREAS**, this year, “*National Charter Schools Week*” is celebrated from May
5 7, 2023 through May 13, 2023; and

6 **WHEREAS**, charter schools are tuition-free and independently-operated public
7 schools that are open to all students regardless of location; and charter schools function
8 as public schools, and their operators receive charters from public agencies – state or
9 local school boards; and those charters are performance contracts that establish each
10 school and contain provisions related to their financial plans, curriculum, and
11 governance; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the “Guam Academy Charter Schools Act of 2009” was enacted to
13 provide opportunities for teachers, students, and community members to establish and
14 maintain schools that operate independently from the Guam Department of Education.
15 Our local academy charter schools receive funding from annual appropriations to the
16 Guam Academy Charter School Fund at a rate of about Seven Thousand Five Hundred
17 Dollars (\$7,500) per student enrolled in the respective academy charter school; and

18 **WHEREAS**, in 2013, the *Guåhan* Academy Charter School (GACS) became
19 Guam’s first (1st) approved academy charter school and was established in *Tiyan*; and
20 the school is focused on resourcefulness, respect, and responsibility, and its aim is to
21 nurture their students’ abilities to set and achieve goals, communicate effectively, think
22 critically, and develop a self-motivated pursuit of knowledge. GACS’s goal is to design
23 and implement an academic program that meets the needs of a wide range of learners
24 and to create a learning environment where diversity is celebrated through the studying
25 of various cultures and civilizations, their arts, music, customs, and belief systems; and

1 *Guåhan* Academy Charter School aims to continue to promote tolerance and acceptance
2 of all individuals, and to instill in their students a sense of respect and community; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the iLearn Academy Charter School (iLACS) was established in
4 January 2015, becoming Guam’s second (2nd) approved academy charter school. iLACS
5 provides a rigorous academic curriculum for grades K-5 with a special emphasis on
6 technology, and their students receive a unique and advanced educational experience to
7 help ensure their future success. iLACS is committed to enriching their students’
8 learning in all content areas but with a specific emphasis on technology, science, and
9 math; and the mission of iLACS is to foster a love of learning in an environment that
10 provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to achieve academic excellence
11 through the use of technology, personal growth, and success; and

12 **WHEREAS**, in 2018, the Science is Fun and Awesome (SiFA) Learning
13 Academy Charter School located in *Tiyan* was established, becoming Guam’s third (3rd)
14 academy charter school to be approved. SiFA is a Science, Technology, Engineering,
15 Arts and Mathematics (STEAM)-based charter school that concentrates on educating
16 middle school students; and its mission is to prepare middle school students through
17 rigorous and relevant STEAM content as SiFA is dedicated to academic and personal
18 development of their students to be successful and productive citizens by developing
19 strong critical thinking skills that are needed to solve problems for Guam and the world,
20 and to prepare their students to meet the challenges of today’s world by helping them
21 achieve their full potential; and

22 **WHEREAS**, in 2019, the Career Tech High Academy Charter School (CTech),
23 located in *Hågat*, became Guam’s latest and fourth (4th) academy charter school to be
24 approved; and they opened their doors to students in January 2021. CTech is Guam’s
25 only trades-centered high school that provides students the knowledge, experience and
26 opportunity to achieve nationally-recognized certifications in their respective technical

1 fields; and with a special emphasis in Career and Technical Education, their students
2 can enter our local trades industry workforce with employable skills. CTech’s mission
3 is to provide a foundation in excellent character, student leadership and technical
4 management; and it aims to provide coherent and rigorous curriculum aligned with
5 challenging academic standards and the relevant technical knowledge and skills needed
6 to prepare high school student for further education and careers in their chosen Career
7 Technical cluster; and

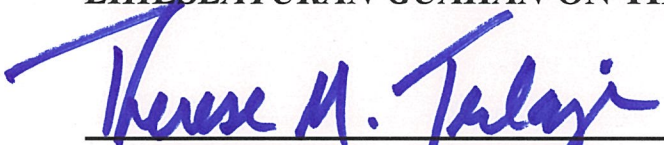
8 **WHEREAS**, Guam’s academy charter schools are accountable for improving
9 our island students’ achievements and meeting additional provisions of their charter; as
10 well as visions of educational advancement that might not be realized in traditional
11 public-school settings; now therefore, be it

12 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
13 on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize the Charter Schools of Guam on the
14 observance of “National Charter Schools Week” from May 7 through May 13, 2023;
15 and commend Guahan Academy Charter School, iLearn Academy Charter School,
16 Science is Fun and Awesome Learning Academy Charter School, and Career Tech High
17 Academy Charter School for their innovative and imaginative efforts to ensure the well-
18 rounded education of our students and our youth; and be it further

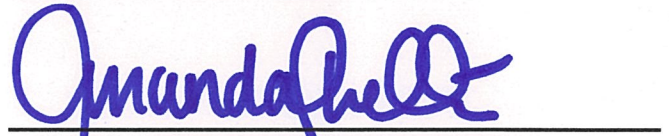
19 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the
20 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Evangeline
21 Cepeda, Chair of the Guam Academy Charter Schools Council; to Ann Santiago, Chief
22 Executive Officer of *Guåhan* Academy Charter School; to Helen Nishihira, Chief
23 Operations Officer of iLearn Academy Charter School; Rachel Alquero, Chief
24 Academic Officer of iLearn Academy Charter School; Argie Pamplona, Lower
25 Elementary Principal of iLearn Academy Charter School; Maria Dunn, Upper
26 Elementary Principal of iLearn Academy Charter School; Jayne de Guzman, Principal

- 1 of Science is Fun and Awesome Learning Academy Charter School; Andresina
- 2 McManus, Principal of Career Tech High Academy Charter School; and to the
- 3 Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE 9TH DAY OF MAY 2023.



THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker



AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary



Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 12, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media
From: Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett
Re: PRESENTATION NOTICE for Resolution No. 121-37 (LS)

Håfa adai:

The presentation of **Resolution No. 121-37 (LS)** – *“Relative to recognizing the Charter Schools of Guam on the observance of “National Charter Schools Week” from May 7 through May 13, 2023; and commending Guahan Academy Charter School, iLearn Academy Charter School, Science is Fun and Awesome Learning Academy Charter School, and Career Tech High Academy Charter School for their innovative and imaginative efforts to ensure the well-rounded education of our students and our youth,”* will take place on Saturday, May 13, 2023 at 10:30 am. The presentation will be held at the Micronesia Mall.

We look forward to your attendance and participation.